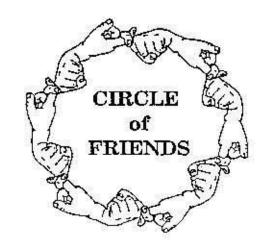
# Circle of Friends Coordinator – Rosa Rathbun

801-590-4888 (v/vp) rosavball@gmail.com



### DSDHH MISSION STATEMENT

DSDHH provides education, advocacy and accessible support services which enhance the quality of life for people who are D/deaf or Hard of Hearing



# CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

#### **UTAH STATE OFFICE OF REHABILITATION**

### DIVISION OF SERVICES TO THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING



### Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

5709 S. 1500 West Taylorsville, UT 84123-5217

(801) 263-4860 (v)

(801) 657-5200 (vp)

(801) 263-4879 (hard of hearing callers)

(801) 263-4862 (tty)

1-800-860-4860 (Toll Free)

(801) 263-4865 (Fax)

## Southern Utah Deaf and Hard of Hearing Programs

1067 E. Tabernacle, Suite 10 St. George, UT 84770-3163

(435) 673-8974 (v/tty)

(866) 939-2975 (vp)

(435) 628-5368 (hard of hearing callers)

(435) 673-8983 (Fax)

www.deafservices.utah.gov

### www.aslterpsutah.org CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Circle of Friends is a recreational and social program developed for people with multiple disabilities and some degree of hearing loss. Individuals with multiple disabilities, i.e.: cerebral palsy, blindness, autism, mental and/or other physical challenges meet on a monthly basis to socialize. This program is offered by the Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Program activities are funded mainly by donated monies.

The goals of Circle of Friends program are to provide participants or "Friends" opportunities to develop independent living and social skills, increase self-esteem, and decrease isolation by socializing with others who use sign language.

The Circle of Friends gather for activities such as: movie night, craft making, trips to Hogle Zoo, farmers market, museums, and other venues. If funds are available, they can attend the annual week at National Abilities Center.

#### **MEMBER CRITERIA**

- Multiple disabilities with some degree of hearing loss
- Ages 18 and up
- Comfortable with group activities

#### WE NEED VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers can assist in many areas providing companionship to the very isolated individuals, sharing talents and helping the group as needed. There are many volunteer opportunities with Circle of Friends. Volunteers are required to pass Background Criminal Identification fingerprinting process.

A volunteer's responsibility within the Circle of Friends Program is to:

- Support participants to have positive experiences in group and public environments.
- Treat individuals with respect.
- Know or be willing to learn sign language.
- Honor your commitments.
- Help plan activities

#### WHY VOLUNTEER?

- Get to know a community or culture
- Share your talents
- Make the world a better place for people with disabilities
- Explore a career
- Gain personal satisfaction
- Occupy spare time
- Gain a perspective of the world from people with disabilities
- Enjoy new adventures

No matter the reason, take the commitment as seriously as any type of employment opportunity. The goal is to provide the volunteers and Friends with a valuable experience. Whatever you enjoy doing, whatever your skills or how much spare time you have, there will be an opportunity to be a valuable volunteer.

We welcome and want referrals of people who are interested in becoming a member or a volunteer of the Circle of Friends. If you know of any one who would benefit from participating in this program please contact us. Feel free to contact the coordinator with questions or ideas.